OFFICIAL PUBLICATION AMERICAN HIBISCUS SOCIETY

Published quarterly, sent free to all paid up members
Issue deadlines and ad rates as listed below:

Jan. Feb. Mar. - Copy deadline, January 1st.
Apr. May June - Copy deadline, April 1st.
July Aug. Sep. - Copy deadline, July 1st.
Oct. Nov. Dec. - Copy deadline, October 1st.

AD RATES

1/3 page	$ 3.50	53 spaces across	14 lines down
1/2 page	$ 5.00	53 spaces across	21 lines down
Full page	$ 10.00	53 spaces across	43 lines down

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In reviewing the operation of our shows thus far this season I find myself more confused than ever in attempting decisions that will affect the future. In reality our shows are undoubtedly the most important activity that we have from the standpoint of satisfaction to ourselves and in exposing our efforts to the public in the quest of new members and new chapters.

In some of our shows difficulties have arisen from the new judging system which has not had a fair chance to show its advantages because of Daylight Saving Time. While we ourselves, in most cases, can adjust to daylight saving without much difficulty, our Hibiscus plants do not comply. We have always had some difficulty with our time schedules in trying to get the shows set up, judged, and ready for the public. It has been difficult to harmonize the several viewpoints that are involved in opening the shows to the public as early as possible.

It seemed to me at the end of the 1966 season we had greatly improved our show techniques and our worthy First Vice President, Lee Trainor, and his associates made much good progress in solving practically all of the problems that we had encountered regarding show operations and judging.

Almost immediately at the opening of this season two new situations were thrust upon us - Daylight Saving and the new Judging System. It has been almost pathetic to see many of our exhibitors wrestling with bloom still in the bud to get them to open for judging. It is almost a foregone conclusion that unless you get the blooms open in the sunlight and warm air that they will not open in the air conditioning which has been a factor in most of our shows. It will take a big crystal ball and lots of good headwork to adjust to these problems.

Another matter that is giving me considerable concern is the judging of seedlings now that we have

(Next page please)